

AMENDMENTIN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 7-9 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 6 and 11 as set forth below. Attached as Exhibit A are copies of claims 6 and 11, as filed, with amendments indicated thereon.

C1 6. (Amended) The antagonist of claim 1 wherein said denatured collagen is denatured collagen type-I.

C2 11. (Twice Amended) The antagonist of claim 10 wherein said monoclonal antibody is a monoclonal antibody having the binding specificity of monoclonal antibody HU177, HUIV26 or XL313.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is requested.

After Applicants' election with traverse, claims 1-4, and 6-18 were pending in the application. Applicants chose collagen type-I as the species for examination, pending allowance of generic claims. Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's statement that "[m]ethod claims limited to the scope of the allowable product claims will be rejoined and examined at the time the product claims are indicated as being allowable." Office Action at page 2.

The Examiner grants the application an effective filing date of January 6, 2000, pending availability of the priority documents. Applicants respectfully submit that the effective filing date of the application is January 6, 1999. Enclosed herewith as Exhibit B are the filing receipts for the priority documents, showing receipt of the priority documents by the PTO. Applicants will provide copies of the priority documents, if the Examiner is unable to locate them at the PTO.

A new declaration referencing the four priority provisional applications is submitted herewith. The present application is identified by application number and filing date in the body of the declaration.